

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

YOUR
UTILITIES

WASTEWATER

CITY OF TUCSON ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Plastic Bags – the #1 Recycling Contaminant

After nearly 15 years of the Blue Barrel recycling program, plastic bags and film plastic continue to be the number one contaminant of recyclables. **Here's how plastic affects recycling:**

Damage to recycling equipment

Plastic can jam up sorting equipment at the recycling facility, causing multiple shutdowns in a day and long-term equipment maintenance issues.

Negative worker impacts

Recycling employees lose efficiency each time they stop work to safely untangle plastic from machinery.

Inability to recycle

Too many contaminants in a recycling load lessens the value of the entire load, with the potential that the service provider will not accept the materials.

Keep plastic bags and film plastic out of your Blue Barrel – instead recycle them at retail outlets and grocery stores so they can become fabric, carpet, and building products.

PIMA COUNTY WASTEWATER RECLAMATION



Depending on your income, you may be eligible for a reduction on your monthly sewer bill of

25%, 50% or 75%

To be eligible you must meet the following:

- Be a residential sewer customer
- Have a water/sewer bill in your name
- Meet combined household income requirements



PIMA COUNTY
WASTEWATER RECLAMATION

Like us on Facebook!

For more information about the Sewer Outreach Subsidy Program, visit: www.pima.gov/wastewaterreclamation/subsidy

Call **(520) 791-5443**

today to schedule an eligibility appointment!

Your utilities services statement includes fees for your water, environmental services, and wastewater.

Environmental Services (ES) (520) 791-3171 or visit tucsonaz.gov/environmental-services

Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (PCRWRD) (520) 724-6500 or visit www.pima.gov/wastewaterreclamation



CITY DEPARTMENT SYNERGY

Great teamwork among Tucson Water and Tucson Department of Transportation employees is rooted in:

Monthly Project Meeting: All public and private utilities, including Tucson Water, come together with TDOT project managers in a formal monthly coordination meeting to discuss upcoming projects: design, phasing, project limits, traffic control, accessibility, time frame, potential concerns, and more.

Two-Way Design Review: TDOT and Tucson Water staff review and provide feedback on each other's project plans at 30%, 60% and 90% design. A common goal is to coordinate projects to prevent having to tear up a recently-paved roadway.

In the field: When water leaks happen in roadway areas, Tucson Water field staff are typically first on site, shutting off service and securing the area. During repair or maintenance, Tucson Water and TDOT inspectors coordinate schedules and sequencing.

Training: TDOT City Streets Maintenance workers attend Smartscape classes sponsored by Tucson Water through the Pima County Cooperative Extension Office. It's a new training program for TDOT workers to learn about water efficiency and landscape maintenance in medians and along roadways.



MAY 2017



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Two national celebrations in May focus on drinking water and the infrastructure needed to deliver it to your tap.

(See Working with Water, pg. 4-5)



tucsonaz.gov/water

WORKING WITH WATER

May is the month to celebrate the efforts that deliver safe and reliable drinking water to your home, school, or business. There are two national celebration weeks that draw attention to the work that water utilities, like Tucson Water and other organizations, perform to promote a high quality of life for customers.

Drinking Water Week, May 7-13



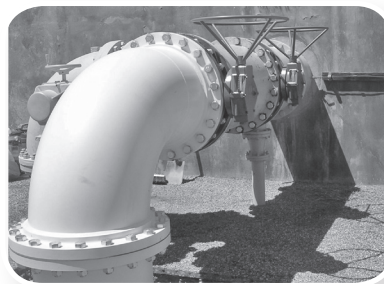
For more than 35 years the American Water Works Association has celebrated **Drinking Water Week** to recognize the vital role that our most important resource, water, plays in our daily lives.

Tucson Water's environmental scientists, chemists, analysts, disinfection personnel, system and water treatment operators, and inspectors work together to conduct more than 14,000 water quality tests each year. They monitor

the quality of our drinking water at more than 200 wells, 61 reservoirs, 266 sampling stations, and 125 selected homes throughout the Tucson Water service area. Water samples are tested at Tucson Water's state-certified lab or sent to partner labs for analysis. We report to customers on water quality with an **Annual Water Quality Report**, monthly online water quality reports, and a quarterly report in **Water Matters**.

Infrastructure Week, May 15-19

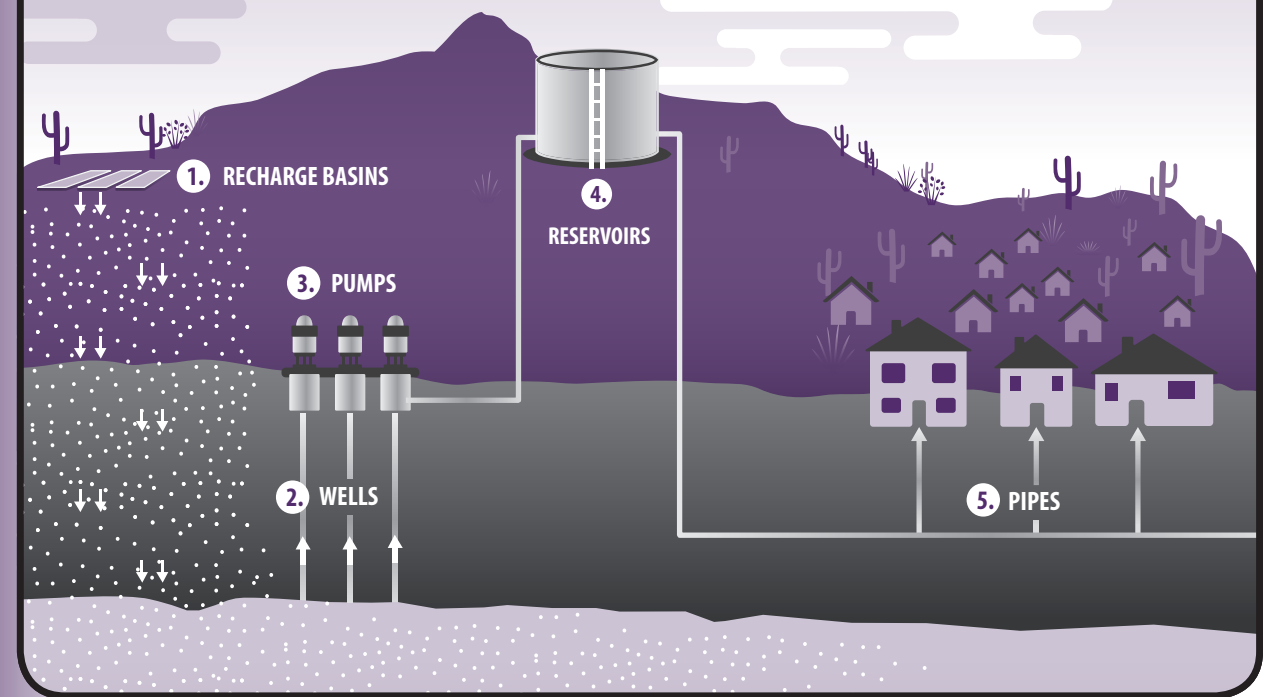
Infrastructure Week is a national effort to educate public and private interests to support infrastructure improvements around the country. Tucson Water has more than \$1 billion invested in infrastructure; however, since Tucson Water is more than 100 years old, some infrastructure is approaching the end of its expected service life. Our staff continually monitors infrastructure for failure, and, as needed, repairs, rehabilitates, and replaces service, distribution, and transmission lines. Tucson Water also continues to rehabilitate reservoirs to prevent leaks, install automated meter reading technology, and offer financial incentives to conserve water.



When you turn on your tap, remember that Tucson Water is dedicated to maintaining a reliable water supply for 230,000 metered accounts that serve more than 720,000 people.

FIVE INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS That Tucson Water Maintains Daily

1. Hundreds of acres of infiltration or recharge basins allow Colorado River or reclaimed water to move into the aquifer.
2. Wells are drilled hundreds of feet below the surface to extract water supplies.
3. Pumps with electric or gas motors move the water from the aquifer to reservoirs, uphill, or to customers directly.
4. Reservoirs store millions of gallons of water for delivery; the largest has a 60 million gallon capacity.
5. Thousands of miles of pipe deliver water: 4,600 miles for drinking water and 200 miles for reclaimed water.



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Public Information
English & Español:
(520) 791-4331

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water

SOCIAL



TDD

(520) 791-2639

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